CLAIMS

1. (original): Communication system comprising: first and second pieces of equipment having respective housings; a data transmission line for transmitting data between said pieces of equipment in a reflective signalling format; and conversion means connectable to said data transmission line externally of said respective housings for converting data between a reflective signalling format and another format suitable for processing by one of said pieces of equipment.

2. (original): Communication system according to claim 1, wherein said conversion means includes a signal connector for connection to one of said pieces of equipment.

3. (original): Communication system according to claim 1 and including a connector assembly including said conversion means and a signal connector for connection to one of said pieces of electrical equipment.

4. (original): Communication system according to claim 3, wherein said connector assembly includes a housing, the converter being located inside that housing.

5. (original): Communication system according to any one of claims 2 to 4, wherein said signal connector is releasable.

6. (currently amended): Communication system according to ~~any preceding claim,~~ claim 1, wherein said conversion means also converts power between a reflective signalling format and another format suitable for consumption by one of said pieces of equipment.

7. (original): Converter for converting data between a reflective signalling format and another format, said data being transferred between first and second pieces of equipment; wherein the converter is adapted to be located externally of said first and second pieces of equipment.

8. (original): Converter according to claim 7 and including a signal connector for connection to one of said pieces of electrical equipment.

9. (original): Converter according to claim 8, wherein said signal converter and said signal connector are located in a common housing.

10. (original): Converter according to claim 8 or 9, wherein said signal connector is releasable.

11. (currently amended): Converter according to ~~any one of claims 7 to 10~~ claim 7 and also adapted to convert power between a reflective signalling format and another format suitable for consumption by one of said pieces of equipment.

12. (original): Method of signalling between first and second equipments linked by a transmission line and of sensing a security violation of said transmission line, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) transmitting a signal from said first equipment to said second equipment;

(b) reflecting said signal back to said first equipment in a manner corresponding to a first bit sequence;

(c) receiving the signal thus reflected at said first equipment; and

(d) comparing said signal thus reflected with said transmitted signal to determine whether there has been a security violation of said transmission line and to extract said first bit sequence.

13. (original): Method of signalling according to claim 12 and comprising the step of comparing the signal thus reflected with the transmitted signal to determine a round trip time.

14. (original): Method of signalling according to claim 13 and comprising the step of monitoring successive round trip times to determine any variation thereof.

15. (original): Method of signalling according to claim 14 and further comprising the step of periodically lowering the threshold at which reflected signals are considered received.

16. (original): Method of signalling according to any one of claims 12 to 15 and comprising the step of generating an alarm signal on determination of a security violation.

17. (original): Method of signalling according to any one of claims 12 to 15 and comprising the step of blocking signalling between first and second equipments on determination of a security violation.

18. (original): Method of signalling according to any one of claims 12 to 15 and comprising the step of re-routing signalling via a different transmission line on determination of a security violation.

19. (original): Signalling system configured to operate in accordance with claim 16 and having means responsive to said alarm signal for visually indicating a security violation of the transmission line.

20. (original): Signalling system configured to operate in accordance with claim 17 and having means for blocking signalling between said first and second equipments on determination of a security violation.

21. (original): Signalling system configured to operate in accordance with claim 18 and having means for re-routing signalling via a different transmission line on determination of a security violation.